

# INTRODUCTION TO ICC EQUITABLE ENERGY UPGRADE PROGRAM WORKSHOPS

PURSUANT TO 220 ILCS 5/16-111.10(E)(1)

Workshop 1

June 7, 2022, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Jennifer Morris
Assistant Director
Integrated Distribution Planning Division
Illinois Commerce Commission
Jennifer.Morris@illinois.gov

Jim Zolnierek
Bureau Chief of the Public Utilities Bureau
Illinois Commerce Commission
Jim.Zolnierek@illinois.gov



#### DISCLAIMER

This slide deck and its contents are intended for informational and discussion purposes only and do not represent a legal interpretation or statement of policy by the ICC or its Staff. Views and opinions expressed by ICC personnel during the workshop are their own and do not necessarily reflect the views of the ICC.



### ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

In the interest of time, we will forgo formal introductions of the participants today. In lieu of introductions, please type your name, role, and organization into the WebEx chat. This information may be used by Staff to ensure that interested parties' views are sought out and heard and compile a list of participating organizations.

This workshop is not being recorded.

OGC reads Illinois Rule of Evidence 408.



### MEETING BEST PRACTICES

- Mute yourself when not speaking
- Speak up with questions or comments (or you may insert your question in the chat)
  - We will pause at regular intervals for questions
  - Please share your name and organization when you speak
  - If you have an audio issue, send me a message or email me (Jennifer.Morris@illinois.gov) and I will read your question
  - If comfortable, share video when commenting
- Listen + speak with an open mind
  - Seek first to understand, then to be understood
  - Collaboration is a goal of this workshop process
  - Be patient when listening to others speak; don't interrupt
  - Avoid using acronyms or phrases that may be misunderstood



#### AGENDA

- 1. To introduce the ICC Equitable Energy Upgrade Program ("EEUP") Workshops, including Staff's proposed process for the Workshops and solicit feedback on that process.
- 2. To provide an overview of the statutory requirements related to the EEUP.
- 3. To educate Workshop participants on Ameren Illinois' and ComEd's existing On-Bill Financing ("OBF") tariff offerings.
- 4. To educate Workshop participants on the PAYS® system as well as experience with PAYS® in other jurisdictions.



### **SPEAKERS**

Statutory Overview – Claire Cowan, Slipstream on behalf of the Illinois Clean Jobs Coalition



Claire Cowan

Existing On-Bill Financing Programs

Kristol Simms, Ameren Illinois

Nick Bafaloukos and Brequan Tucker, ComEd







Nick Bafaloukos



Brequan Tucker

PAYS® Programs in the U.S. – Stephen Bickel, Clean Energy Works



Stephen Bickel



## GOALS FOR THE EEUP WORKSHOPS

Section 16-111.10 of the Illinois Public Utilities Act requires the development and implementation of the Equitable Energy Upgrade Program ("EEUP").

Section 16-111.10(a) highlights that an EEUP should be pursued to enable many more Illinoisans to access the health, environmental, and financial benefits of new clean energy technology, which can contribute to the creation of a clean energy economy, conservation of natural resources, and reliability of the electricity grid. The statute also points out that a large portion of residents are unable to purchase systems due to capital or credit barriers.

Given this requirement, the goal of these EEUP workshops is to develop the guidelines to implement the EEUP statutory requirements that can allow for a successful EEUP to achieve these goals, including but not limited to providing adequate consumer protections.



# STAFF PROPOSED PROCESS FOR EEUP WORKSHOPS —FEEDBACK REQUESTED

The Commission must establish EEUP guidelines that electric utilities must abide by when implementing the Program. To ensure consistent guidelines across utilities, Staff proposes these guidelines be established via administrative rule (i.e., rulemaking proceeding).

Workshop Goal: Develop consensus (or near-consensus) draft rules that can be filed with the ICC to initiate the rulemaking process.

Hold 2-hour topic-specific workshop meetings once per month. If it is determined more frequent meetings are desired, this can be changed.

Meetings are in the nature of settlement discussions and will not be recorded. Further, discussion materials or presentations will be circulated to the EEUP distribution list and not posted to the ICC EEUP webpage unless the developer of such materials requests it be posted (the educational presentations from today's meeting will be posted).

Each workshop may have a short presentation, but workshops will be largely discussion based on what participants would like to see in the rules.

Staff will develop a proposed outline for the rules following today's workshop.



# STAFF PROPOSED PROCESS FOR EEUP WORKSHOPS (CONT) – FEEDBACK REQUESTED

Staff will share a proposed outline for the rules following today's workshop with a request for feedback.

After a specific topic (e.g., customer protections) is discussed in the workshops, either a workshop participant will volunteer to draft that particular section of the rule or Staff will draft that particular section of the rule.

Once a section of the rule is drafted, such language will be circulated to the EEUP distribution list for feedback. The draft rule language will then be discussed at the subsequent workshop, and potential consensus language for the rule can be refined at that time, or clearly identify the areas of disagreement.

Once this process is completed for each section of the rule, a final workshop negotiation meeting will occur to see if it is possible to resolve any of the areas of disagreement, or alternatively, decide to move forward with the contested rulemaking proceeding.



# STAFF PROPOSED PROCESS FOR EEUP WORKSHOPS (CONT) – FEEDBACK REQUESTED

The ICC initiates the rulemaking process after conclusion of these workshops.

After rules are approved by the ICC, the utilities develop informational filings within 120 days, and then the ICC initiates investigations into those filings.

Depending on whether the draft rules and the subsequent informational filings are consensus or not will be one factor in how quickly the EEUP can be launched.

Given these timing issues, for purposes of these Staff-led EEUP workshops, Staff suggests prioritizing discussion of topics that directly impact what information needs to be included in the rule.

After rules have been developed, Staff will support additional meetings to be held prior to the utilities submitting their informational filings in an effort to minimize contested issues in the ICC investigations concerning the utilities' informational filings. Staff suggests a SAG subcommittee may be a productive forum to hold such discussions given its track record at reaching consensus before utility filings. Both utilities have agreed via their energy efficiency plan stipulations that they will meet with interested parties before submitting their informational filings to discuss in good faith the EEUP design and potential implementation approaches for low-income customers.



### PROPOSED EEUP WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

- 1. Tuesday, June 7, 1 p.m. 3 p.m. Intro to Workshops, Statute, PAYS®, and existing On-Bill Financing offerings
- 2. Wednesday, July 6, 10 a.m. 12 p.m. Draft Rule Outline and Consumer Protections
- 3. Tuesday, August 10, 1 p.m. 3 p.m.
- 4. Tuesday, September 20, 1 p.m. 3 p.m.
- 5. Tuesday, October 25, 10 a.m. 12 p.m.



### EEUP QUESTIONS LIST

Spreadsheet currently has around 70 questions related to the EEUP.

Stakeholders are requested to review question list and send any new questions that should be added.

The workshops will plan to walk through and discuss questions pertaining to topics directly impacting the creation of a draft rule.

Questions not addressed through these workshops could be discussed in the future in the suggested SAG subcommittee.



### STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK REQUESTED

Please send written feedback to <u>Jennifer.Morris@illinois.gov</u> by June 14, 2022.

Feedback is being sought on the following:

- Staff Proposed Process for EEUP Workshops
- Additional Questions to add to the EEUP Questions List
- •Interest in presenting or speaking about particular topics at future workshop.